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Senators to hear CMU students' proposal regarding the Michigan Merit Scholarship

Who: Members of the Senate Education Committee, chaired by Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland, and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education, chaired by Sen. Mike Goschka, R-Brant.

What: Central Michigan University students will present a plan they've developed that would change when students who perform well on the final state standardized test receive the scholarship. The goal of the proposal is to increase the number of Michigan residents who have college degrees.

When: 9 a.m., Wednesday, June 8.

Where: Capitol Building, Senate Appropriations Room, third floor.

Briefing: A CMU class has proposed increasing the Merit scholarship from \$2,500 to \$5,000, awarded in four, yearly amounts of \$1,250. The governor has proposed making the scholarship \$4,000 and changing the scholarship to be given out after a student completes two years of college or training.

Senate Republicans have been reviewing the governor's proposal. GOP senators have questioned the governor's plan because it would remove academic achievement as a condition of receiving the award as well as concerns the revamped award would become a new student-loan program with bureaucratic hurdles.